

**To:** RBMS Bibliographic Standards Committee  
**Re:** Library of Congress (LC) Update  
**From:** LC Liaison (Manon Th  roux – Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs Division)  
**Date:** January 2, 2024 (for meeting on January 16, 2024)

This update contains highlights of cataloging-related news from LC since my last report to the RBMS Bibliographic Standards Committee in June 2023.

## LC Staffing Changes

- Rare Book and Special Collections Division:
  - Stephanie Stillo was named the new Chief; previously held the position of curator of the Lessing J. Rosenwald Collection and Aramont Library, two of the division’s notable collections.
- Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate:
  - Angela Kinney was named Deputy Director (a new position); previously served as chief of the African, Latin American & Western European Division.
- Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs Division (PTCP):
  - Ava Brillat was hired as a Senior Instructor.

## LC Rare Materials Section: Retrospective Conversion Project

- Five-year retrospective conversion project focused on the holdings of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division ended July 2023.
- Work was performed by a vendor using the Rare Shelf List and special files; members of the Rare Materials Section participated in the early design of the project, assisted with review of the work, and continue to perform post-recon cleanup.
- Collections addressed by the project include: Joseph Meredith Toner, Printed Ephemera, Ralph Ellison, Susan B. Anthony (adding annotations to existing records), Documents of the First Fourteen Congresses, Gene Berry & Jeffrey Campbell, Armed Services Editions, Big Little Books, Miniature Books, Woodrow Wilson, YA Medical Pamphlets, the Aramont Library, British Pamphlets, NEA Small Press, Congressional Speeches, fine and armorial bindings (adding genre headings), provenance (autographs, bookplates, etc.; adding genre and name headings), and nearly all of the Raymond Toinet Collection.

## Classification Web Plus

- New [Classification Web Plus](#) subscription product became available Aug. 1, 2023.
- Provides consolidated access to resources found in earlier versions of Classification Web, plus additional resources in a new section called “Cataloging Policy Documentation.”
- New section contains select LC-maintained documents previously found in Cataloger’s Desktop (now discontinued); system uses Apache Solr to facilitate cross-document searching.
- New web page on LC website for summaries of [Updates to Documentation](#) over time.

## Resource Description and Access (RDA)

- In June 2023, it was [announced](#) that the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) will have a rolling implementation of Official RDA from May 1, 2024, to April 30, 2027.
- New [PCC RDA Implementation Task Group](#) charged Nov. 2023.
- New [PCC Introductory RDA Training](#) issued (Phase 1)
  - Free training modules with slides and exercises; intended to allow catalogers to identify key changes introduced during the 3R Project, use the RDA Toolkit, and understand new concepts and terminology; Phase 2 training will focus on RDA in practice.

- [PCC Task Group to Test the Official RDA Toolkit](#)
  - [Final Report](#) issued Oct. 2023 and recommendations approved by PCC Policy Committee.
  - PCC and PTCP currently reviewing feedback received and working to resolve issues identified in LC-PCC Policy Statements (PSs) and Metadata Guidance Documents (MGDs) for Official RDA.
- [PCC RDA Communications Committee](#) web page includes copies of their quarterly information bulletin.
- Reminder: Do not use the Official RDA LC-PCC PSs or the LC-PCC MGDs yet!

## Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC)

- Meetings:
  - PCC Policy Committee Meeting (Nov. 2-3, 2023): [Outcomes](#)
  - PCC Participants' Virtual Meeting (Feb. 15, 2024; 1:00-2:30pm, Eastern)
  - PCC At-Large Virtual Forum (Mar. 28, 2024; 1:00-2:30pm, Eastern)
  - PCC Operations Committee Meeting (Hybrid) (May 2-3, 2024)
- New groups charged (see also RDA section, above):
  - Task Group on Privacy in Name Authority Records: [Charge](#)
  - Consultation Group for Library Systems and Vendors: [Charge](#)
  - Task Group on Strategic Planning for AI and Machine Learning: [Charge](#)
  - Task Group on Accessibility Information in Provider Neutral Records: [Charge](#)
  - Task Group on Evaluation Guidelines for Non-Latin Script References in Name Authority Records: [Charge](#)
    - Note: Implementation of previously-announced [Policy Recommendations on Non-Latin Script Cross-Reference Special Coding Practice in NACO](#) have been postponed until new Task Group completes its work. Has already issued its [Interim Report](#)
- Other documents:
  - Task Group on Gender: [Interim Report](#)
  - PCC Position Statement on Personal Data in Name Authority Records: [Statement](#)

## ALA/LC Romanization Tables

- New table for Modern Manipuri (Meitei script) was approved.

## Name Authority Record Documentation

- Descriptive Cataloging Manual, Z1 section, [Aug. 2023 update](#):
  - 046 field: Removed restriction on using subfields \$q and \$r. Added instruction encouraging evaluation of existing subfields \$s and \$t in corporate body records and recoding them when appropriate.
  - 053 field: Expanded scope to include authors of juvenile literature in English.
  - 667 field: Added instructions to permit deletion of PCC URIs in MARC Pilot notes when updating authority records.
- Descriptive Cataloging Manual, Z1 section, [Oct. 2023 update](#):
  - 371 field: Added instruction not to record email addresses for living persons.

## LC Classification (LCC): Ukraine

- Moved LC classification numbers for Ukraine from DK508 to a new range: DK5001-DK5995, as documented in these two lists:
  - [Classification](#)
  - [Subjects](#)
- Part of ongoing project to review/revise classification for the so-called “former Soviet Republics” in subclass DK. Next phase will focus on the Baltic states (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania) and Kyivan Rus.

- LC will not reclassify existing collections.
- To send feedback: [reclassproject@loc.gov](mailto:reclassproject@loc.gov)

## LC Subject Headings (LCSH)

- New web page on [Subject Headings for Indigenous Peoples](#) contains interim guidelines on creating subject and demographic term proposals for indigenous group names. The guidelines minimize the need for direct contact with tribal nations to prevent multiple people from contacting them with the same questions.
- Implemented a temporary limit on the number of proposals to be considered on each LCSH monthly editorial list, due to the high volume of subject proposals received and an increasingly heavy workload. Once 200 proposals have been received each month, only proposals associated with CIP cataloging will continue to be scheduled for that month's list; other proposals will be held until the following list.
- Special lists on specific topics/projects may be issued in conjunction with regular monthly lists.

## BIBFRAME

- New specifications for [MARC 21 to BIBFRAME conversions](#) released Nov. 2023 (v. 2.4): [Github](#)
- New versions of the BIBFRAME [ontology](#) and LC's [extension ontology](#) released Nov. 2023 (v. 2.3)